



Docket No.: 1344.1080

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Yuji TOCHIO

Serial No. 10/015,616

Group Art Unit: 2828

Confirmation No. 7298

Filed: December 17, 2001

Examiner: Armando Rodriguez

For: DRIVER CIRCUIT AND DRIVING METHOD FOR SEMICONDUCTOR LASER

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed December 18, 2002, and having a period for response set to expire on March 18, 2003. The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

In the Office Action the Examiner noted that claims 1-14 were pending in the application and the Examiner allowed all claims except for claim 14. Thus, claims 1-14 are pending in the application. The Examiner's rejection is traversed below.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

On pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action the Examiner rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,292,606 to Trimmel. In the rejection, the Examiner relies upon Figures 1 and 2 and column 2 of Trimmel. The Examiner takes the position that the three currents recited in claim 14 correspond to the bias current I_0 , the pilot signal current I_s , and the modulation current I_{MOD} illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 of Trimmel.

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AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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9-19-04
Sir:

In the subject application, a Notice of Appeal was filed November 22, 2003 in response to the April 22, 2003 Final Office Action. Applicant is submitting herewith an RCE together with this Amendment.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

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